

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A collapsible plastic storage and transport container comprising:

(a) a bottom extending in a plane;

(b) first and second lengthwise side walls connected to said bottom;

(c) first and second crosswise side walls connected to said bottom;

said lengthwise and crosswise side walls being adapted to assume an operating position wherein said lengthwise and crosswise side walls extend vertically from said bottom opposite one another in pairs; and

(d) a top end frame connected with said side walls in articulated manner near top edges of said side walls;

wherein said lengthwise side walls are mounted on said bottom and on said end frame in articulated manner about longitudinal axes that run parallel to one another and to the

plane of said bottom, said lengthwise side walls being adapted to fold about a center longitudinal axis;

wherein said crosswise side walls are each structured in one piece, are each provided at a top edge with a device to secure it in place with a positive lock on said top end frame, and are adapted to pivot near said bottom about a crosswise axis that is parallel to the plane of said bottom from an upright position into a horizontal collapsed position after release of the lock.

2. The container according to claim 1, wherein said device comprises at least one tab adapted for being fastened in place in a complementary recess in the top end frame with a positive lock.

3. The container according to claim 2, further comprising a lid for closing the container having an underside and a lid recess and a ridge formed on said underside and wherein the tab in the first crosswise side wall is substantially cylindrical in shape and, in the upright position of said first crosswise side wall, projects beyond the complementary recess in the top end frame into said lid recess that closes the container, while the tab in

the second crosswise side wall has a projecting part that rests against said ridge.

4. The container according to claim 2, further comprising a holder in said top end frame and a bottom recess in said bottom and wherein the tab is substantially cylindrical in shape and is adapted to project, in the upright position of the crosswise side wall, beyond the holder in the top end frame into a bottom recess in the bottom of a container that is set onto the container.

5. The container according to claim 1, wherein two tabs are provided at each crosswise side wall.

6. The container according to claim 3, wherein each crosswise side wall has a projection that projects outward at a right angle adapted for insertion through a complementary slit in said top end frame and for being locked in place by a lead seal.

7. The container according to claim 6, further comprising:

(a) at least three aligned bores for receipt of wire of the lead seal disposed respectively in the lid, in the top end frame and in the projection,

(b) a plurality of raised nubs provided to the right and the left of the bore in the lid on the underside of the lid; and

(c) a plurality of depressions in the top end frame corresponding to said nubs.

8. The container according to claim 3, further comprising locking tabs provided on the underside of the lid and wherein said top end frame has a hollow profile and comprises slit-shaped recesses adapted for receipt of the locking tabs.

9. The container according to claim 8, wherein the locking tabs have a hook shape for insertion vertically into the slit-shaped recesses in the top end frame, said locking tabs adapted to engage under a top wall of the end frame after the lid has been shifted horizontally.

10. The container according to claims 2, wherein the top end frame has first and second sides associated

respectively with the first and second crosswise side walls and on each of said first and second sides has a lower shoulder that points into an interior portion of the container, said shoulder having arranged therein the complementary recess for holding the tab.

11. The container according to claim 3, further comprising lid tabs that project from edges of the lid at a right angle and wherein said device comprises recesses provided in the top edge of the crosswise side walls which correspond with said lid tabs.